ed satellite surveys to assess the state of forest cover in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any such satellite survey for the forest cover in Andhra Pradesh has been done in 1994-95; and

(c) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Assessment of country's forest cover is done by the Forest Survey of India once in two years on the basis of visual and digital interpretation of the satellite imageries and is documented in the State of Forest Report published by the Forest Survey of India. The last report was published by them in 1993 and this related to the period 1989-91.

(b) The report of Forest Survey of India (VI assessment of the country's forest cover) pertaining to the period 1993-95 will appear in the State of Forest Report, 1997.

(c) Does not arise.

Phasing out of the Chlorofluoro Carbons

1273. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMSHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Montreal Protocol for phasing out the Chlorofluoro Carbons (CFC's) and other ozone depleting substances, contemplated certain amount of contributions to the International Monetary Fund by the Developed Countries for the purpose;

(b) if so, what was the stipulation in the Protocol in this regard, and what mechanism was provided for monitoring the contributions;

(c) what was the position of this Fund as on January 1, 1995; and

(d) whether Government have taken any steps to impress upon the developed countries to make up deficiency in their contributions to the Fund; if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir, No contribution is to be made to the International Monetary Fund under the Montreal Protocol.

(b) The financial mechanism established under the Protocol includes a multilateral fund, contributions to which are to be made primarily by the developed countries. The contributions are monitored by the Parties and an Executive Committee set up by them.

(c) Balance available in the Multilateral Fund as on February 15, 199 was US dollar 11,828,833.

(d) The Government has taken up the matter in the Executive Committee meetings, the Meetings of the Parties and bilatrally with some ke developed counries for adequate and timely replenishments.

Taking over of agricultural Land fo Power Plant Dabhol

1274. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Wi the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AN FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the repor that agricultural holdings are beir taken over for the power plant, pr posed to be set up by the Enron Co poration at Dabhol, Maharashtra;

(b) in case the reports are factually correct the measures intended to be taken to protect agricultural operations and environmental conditions in the area; and

(c) whether it is to be ensured that all proposals for expansion of capacity in the infrastructural sectors should be cleared in future be first cleared with the Department of Environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Out of 616 hectares of land acquired by the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation, about 62 hectares are under cultivation/horticulture. The proponents propose to raise a green belt around the periphery of the complex. Further, various conditions andenvironmental safeguards have been stipulated by Ministry of Environment and Forests while according environmental clearance. These stipulations are required to be implemented effectively by the proponents.

(c) The requirements of seeking environmental clearance for expansion projects is governed under the provisions of the EIA Notification of 27th January, 1994, as amended on 4th May, 1994.

Doing away with the markets in wild life

1275. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have urged the developed and developing nations to do away with markets dealing in wild life;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of the other countries in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) In order to control and regulate global trade in Wildlife, India became a party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1976. This Convention provides for prohibition of international trade of specially endangered species falling under Appendix-I and strict regulation and control of such trade with respect to wild animals falling under Appendix II and III. India is pursuing the cause of conservation of various speies at global level through this Convention. At present 128 countries are Parties to this Convention, and member countries cannot import or export the species listed under CITES without proper permits.

India has also entered into a Protocol on Tiger Conservation with China, and is promoting the establishment of the Global Tiger Forum, covering 13 range States, with a special view to protect the tiger and its habitat and to do away with the illegal market in trade of tiger parts.

Poaching of endangered species

1276 SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poaching has threatened the survival of many endangered animal species and has assumed alarming proportions in the recent past due to the increase in armed militancy in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to implement the laws against poaching to curb this menace and what is the rate of conviction in such cases?